

## MONTREAL NOTES.

assemblage repaired to the basement, where two or three hours of social intercourse were pleasantly spent. Before parting a brief hour was taken up in congratulatory addresses, and so was brought to a close one of the most enthusiastic gatherings ever seen in Pembroke. Mr. Bayne enters upon his labours under most favourable auspices, and the congregation are to be congratulated on so speedily securing as a pastor one whose zeal and ability are so well known in the Church.

**PRESBYTERY OF ORANGEVILLE.**—This Presbytery met at Orangeville on December 13. There were present fifteen ministers and seven elders. Mr. Hunter, Convener of the Presbytery's Home Mission Committee, reported the amount the Presbytery was expected to raise for Home Missions and Augmentation, and allotted each congregation an amount proportioned to its strength. On motion, the Presbytery pledged itself to use every lawful effort, both individually and collectively, in order to raise the amount asked for in aid of the mission schemes of the Church, especially Home Missions and Augmentation. Mr. Duncan McColl was appointed ordained missionary for St. Andrew's Church, Proton, and Proton Station, his ordination and induction to take place at St. Andrew's Church, Proton, on Tuesday, Jan. 17. The Presbytery will meet there at half-past ten a.m. to hear Mr. McColl's trial, and at two p.m. for his ordination and induction. Mr. Ross to preside, Mr. McDonald to preach, Mr. Wilson to address the minister, and Mr. McLeod the people. Mr. McMichael, on behalf of Black's Corners, Mr. Menary on behalf of Laurel, and Mr. W. H. Hunter on behalf of Vanatter, applied for the services of Mr. J. C. Madill, student of Knox College, during next summer, and the Presbytery granted their request. Mr. J. Inkster, on behalf of Osprey congregation, applied for an ordained missionary, and Mr. Hunter, Home Mission Convener, was instructed to secure, if possible, a graduating student. A committee, composed of Messrs. Crozier, Convener, McClelland, Hunter and Wilson, ministers, and J. C. Shook and Vicar Bates, elders, were appointed to consider a redistribution of stations, with a view to lessening the drain on the Home Mission and Augmentation Fund. The treasure was instructed to hand over to the people of Gaudier Station \$125.66, the amount collected by the Presbytery to aid them in rebuilding their church. Anent the dynamite outrage in Orangeville, the Presbytery passed unanimously the following resolution: Moved by Mr. McClelland, seconded by Mr. McLeod, That this Presbytery heartily sympathizes with Mr. Thomas Anderson, Inspector, in the diabolical outrage perpetrated on his household, resulting in very serious, and perhaps permanent injury to Mrs. Anderson's health in body and mind, and would express their unqualified condemnation of such acts of attempted assassination, and would strongly urge the Ontario Government to use every means and spare no expense to discover the authors of this outrage and enforce the Canada Temperance Act, openly defied by such lawlessness; and that the Clerk be instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to said Government. The next regular meeting of Presbytery will be held in Orangeville on Tue-day, January 24, at half-past ten a.m.—H. CROZIER, Pres. Clerk.

**PRESBYTERY OF MAITLAND.**—This Presbytery met in Wingham on 13th Dec. Rev. G. Law was appointed Moderator. Mr. McKenzie asked for a Presbyterial certificate. This was laid over till next meeting. Messrs. Cameron and Henderson were appointed to audit the treasurer's book. Leave was granted to moderate in a call in Knox Church, Brussels, and South Kinloss congregations. Circulars were read from the Conveners of the Home Mission and Augmentation Fund Committees. On motion of Mr. Ross it was agreed to commend the Home Mission and Augmentation Schemes anew to the liberality of the congregations, instruct the Clerk to allocate the amounts assigned to this Presbytery by the committees among the congregations according to the number of families, and that we pledge ourselves to endeavour to raise the sum asked for. The treasurer gave in his annual report, which was received. He was instructed to write to those congregations that had not paid. Mr. Leask stated that he desired to resign the clerkship, and if agreeable to the Presbytery, in favour of Mr. MacNabb, and gave his reasons for so doing, and tendered his resignation. On motion of Mr. Murray it was agreed that Mr. Leask having signified his desire to resign the clerkship, and having given satisfactory reasons for so doing, said resignation be accepted, and that the cordial thanks of the Presbytery be given to Mr. Leask for his courteous and obliging manner and efficient services in the clerkship since his appointment to the office nine years ago. On motion of Mr. McQuarrie, Mr. MacNabb was appointed clerk of the Presbytery. The Clerk announced the charges entitled to send commissioners to the General Assembly. The Rev. John Laing, D.D., of Dundas, was nominated Moderator of the next General Assembly. An estimate of expenditure for next year was given by the Finance Committee, namely, \$90 for general expenses of the Presbytery and \$42 for expenses of commissioners to next General Assembly. The Presbytery was divided into four districts for the purpose of holding Presbyterial visitation and missionary meetings in the congregations, the ministers of Kincardine, Lucknow, Wingham and Brussels to be Conveners of committees to make arrangements for the holding of said meetings. The districts are (1) Kincardine, Bervie, Kincardine Township, Pine River, Ripley, Huron and Ashfield; (2) Lucknow, St. He'sens, East Ashfield, Dunganon, Port Albert, South Kinloss and Langside; (3) Wingham, Belgrave, Whitechurch, East Wawanosh, Bluevale, Eadies; (4) Brussels, Melville and Knox Church, Walton, Cranbrook, Ethel, Molesworth, Trowbridge, Wroxeter, Fordwich, Gorrie. Remits, Messrs. Leask, McQuarrie, Ross and Ballantyne were appointed to examine the Book of Forms. Messrs. Sutherland, Murray, R. McDonald and Harrison were appointed to consider the Marriage Question. The representation of the General Assembly to remain as it is, one-fourth. The committees on Remits to report at next meeting in March.—ROBERT LEASK, Pres. Clerk.

The annual New Year's gathering of the Presbyterian Sabbath schools of the city was held on Monday morning in Erskine Church, which was filled with the teachers and scholars of the several schools, each school having its banner. Mr. J. Murray Smith occupied the chair and appropriate addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Fleck and Mackay and Mr. James Croil. Mr. Fleck's address on "Hands" was interspersed with interesting illustrations, which kept the attention of the large gathering. Mr. Mackay's object-lesson will not soon be forgotten. He exhibited a heart made of coal, a bouquet of flowers and a glass diamond, by means of which he enforced several weighty lessons respecting the human heart. Mr. Croil referred to his visit to Europe a year ago, and some of the things he had there seen. The gathering was the largest ever held here on New Year's morning. The schools at some distance from Erskine Church had a sleigh ride to and from the meeting, which was greatly relished by the children, the weather being most favourable.

From the January supplement to the *Record*, published by St. Matthew's Church, Point St. Charles, we learn that the present membership of the congregation is 453. In 1886 there were sixty baptisms, forty-five additions to the communion roll and twenty-nine removals by death, etc. Since Mr. Cruikshank's induction in April, 1879, nearly eight years ago, there have been 477 baptisms, 545 additions to the communion roll and 304 names removed from it by death and other causes. The congregation have decided to go on with the new church at once. Its cost is estimated at about \$25,000. The present church property will probably realize \$7,000, leaving \$18,000 to be collected. The congregation are contributing most liberally in proportion to their means, and nineteen of the ministers of our Church in the city have subscribed \$650, thus in the most practical manner endorsing the scheme, and commending it to the sympathy and support of their people. Mr. Cruikshank is now canvassing the city for subscriptions, and hopes to realize sufficient to enable the church to be opened free from debt.

The January number of the St. Gabriel Church *Record* supplement is out, and contains much information calculated to interest the families in the work of the congregation. The ladies' Christmas sale realized \$122. The annual business meeting of the Church takes place on the 11th inst., and the annual congregational festival on the 25th. The Rev. Dr. Campbell is about to commence a series of discourses on the "Creeds of Christendom."

The annual meeting of Erskine Church congregation was held on Wednesday evening, Mr. A. C. Leslie, president of the Board of Management, in the chair. The treasurer's report was one of the best financial statements ever presented to the congregation. The ordinary revenue is derived from Sabbath envelopes and plate collections. The former yielded \$6,278, and the latter, with interest, etc., \$352, or a total of \$7,130. The expenditure was \$6,840, there being thus a surplus of \$290 for the year. The receipts are fully \$1,000 in excess of those of 1886. The contributors by means of envelopes number 290, as compared with 260 for the preceding year. Every sitting in the body of the church is allocated, and the number occupied in the gallery is nearly double that of 1886. Mr. James Williamson was elected president for this year; Mr. D. Lewis, vice-president; Mr. F. Brundage, treasurer; Mr. James Brown, financial secretary, and Mr. C. T. Christie, recording secretary. The annual meeting of the missionary and other societies of the Church takes place on the 11th inst. It is understood that the missionary contributions are about \$1,000 in excess of those of 1886.

The Rev. F. M. Dewey, of Stanley Street Church, was last week presented with a handsome gold watch by the young people of his congregation. The watch is from one of the best manufacturers in Geneva and is one of the most superior make.

The Rev. M. F. Boudreau has now been settled for six years in the French-English congregation of New Glasgow, Que. Two years ago the people increased their contributions toward his salary, so as to lessen the grant in aid. They have again voluntarily resolved to add \$25 per annum to their contributions for salary this year. In addition they have contributed upward of \$20 to the Augmentation Fund, and presented their minister with a Christmas purse of \$23.

The choir of Knox Church gave a concert on Thursday evening in the new church building at Norwood (Back River). The Rev. James Fleck presided, and a handsome sum was raised to procure an organ for the Presbyterian congregation there.

Arrangements have now been completed for the anniversary meeting of the several French-Canadian Protestant missions. It is to be held in Erskine Church on Tuesday evening, the 17th January. The Rev. Professor Shaw, Methodist College, presides; addresses are to be delivered by the Rev. T. Lafleur, Baptist, the Rev. L. N. Tucker, of St. George's Episcopal Church, and the Rev. P. McF. McLeod, of Toronto. The pupils of the mission schools are to sing several French hymns.

In the afternoon of that day from half-past two till half-past four o'clock an examination of the pupils of the Pointe-aux-Trembles Schools is to be held in the lecture room of Erskine Church, to which all friends of the work are cordially invited. The Rev. Principal MacVicar, D.D., will preside. The ladies are to entertain, to tea in Erskine Church the pupils of the mission schools of the several denominations at the close of the examination. On Monday evening of the week beginning 15th inst., the anniversary of the "Sabbath School Union" is held; on Tuesday, "French Missions;" on Wednesday, the "Y. M. C. A.;" on Thursday, the "Bible Society," and on Friday the "Evangelical Alliance."

## Sabbath School Teacher.

## INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.

Jan. 22, } **JESUS AND THE AFFLICTED.** { Matt. 15: 1888. } 21-31.

**GOLDEN TEXT.**—Is any among you afflicted? let him pray.—James iv. 13.

## SHORTER CATECHISM.

**Question 57.**—The first division of the Ten Commandments relates to the special duties God requires of us. The first sets forth the supreme and only Object of Worship; the second, the manner in which He is to be worshipped; the third, the spirit and temper in which acceptable worship is possible; and in the fourth, the time specially set apart for that worship is prescribed. It is significant that the command begins with the word "Remember." The holy Sabbath is not, as some would represent, a Jewish institution. It is as old as creation. It was designed for man's benefit and existed from the beginning. The law for keeping the Sabbath has a distinct place among the Ten Commandments, and is therefore of universal obligation. It is designed for all men and for all time.

## INTRODUCTORY.

Jesus, with His disciples, had sought rest and retirement on the north-eastern border of the Galilean lake; but He was followed by great multitudes whom He instructed and miraculously fed. He then recrossed the lake, miraculously calming its stormy waters, and returned to Capernaum. After a short time, accompanied by His disciples, He went to the borders of Phœnicia, in the direction of Tyre and Sidon, where He wrought the miracle of which we have an account in the present lesson, and then proceeded along the eastern side of the lake till He came to the borders of Decapolis.

**I. A Mother's Love.**—Tyre and Sidon, only about twenty miles apart, on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean, were once great and prosperous cities, famous for their commerce and manufactures. They were wealthy and luxurious. Now they are but small places, with populations of about 3,000 and 5,000 respectively. In this neighbourhood a Syro-Phœnician woman, who no doubt had heard of Jesus and His wonderful works, and had learned from Jewish neighbours about their expected Messiah, came to Christ, crying in sore distress, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil." In our Saviour's time there was such a thing as demoniac possession. The particular nature of that terrible affliction it may be difficult to determine; it is frequently referred to in the New Testament. The sympathetic mother, prompted by strong faith and mother-love, earnestly implores the Saviour's help.

**II. The Trial and Triumph of Faith.**—This woman did not belong to the Jewish race. She was separated from them by prejudice as well as descent, yet her faith enables her to see that good may come out of Nazareth. She did not wait for an invitation, but went courageously forward to beseech the Saviour's help. Strong as was her faith, it was subjected to a severe trial. To her passionate cry Christ is at first silent. "He answered her not a word." Then the disciples desire Him to send her away. Either they pitied her, and wished the scene ended by the granting of her request, or they were disturbed by her importunity, and were anxious that she should be silenced and sent away. The Saviour's reply to this might not seem encouraging to the woman. His special mission was to the Jews. They had the first claim, and in this saying of Jesus it finds recognition. Strong faith is always persevering faith. The woman will not be repelled; she only becomes more importunate. She worshipped Him and continued to cry, "Lord, help me." The answer to this would seem to many most discouraging, "It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs;" but this praying mother is not discouraged by it. She appropriates and bends it to the one purpose she has so earnestly in view. In the East numbers of ravenous dogs prowled at large. They have no home and belong to nobody. There, as in other lands, there are also the house dogs, with which the children play. It is to these last the comparison refers. The expression voices the popular Jewish notion in regard to the Gentiles. The importunate mother accepts it, and adds that the dogs eat the fallen crumbs. Her faith triumphs at last. It obtains the commendation of Jesus. Her prayer is fully answered, and her afflicted daughter was made whole from that very hour.

**III. The Merciful Healer.**—After this impressive manifestation of the merciful character of His work, the Saviour and His disciples now journey eastward, and along the shore of the Sea of Galilee till they reach Decapolis, where He continues to work His miracles of healing. Wherever Jesus went we read of great multitudes coming to Him. No disease could baffle His healing power, and marvellous in number as well as in character were the cures he wrought. The evangelist here enumerates the healing of the "lame, blind, dumb, maimed and many others." These were cures beyond human skill. They aroused the wonder of the people and caused them to think, and then "they glorified the God of Israel."

## PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

Every one needs divine healing.

Faith in Christ is the necessary condition of salvation.

True faith is humble, earnest, persevering, importunate.

True faith is strengthened by trial, but is always victorious in the end.

Gentiles were sometimes more ready to receive the Saviour than His own people.

The afflicted, unable of themselves to go to the Saviour were brought by their friends; it is our duty and privilege to bring friends to Jesus.